



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

School Committee Minutes 05/23/2013

Approved by the Arlington School Committee June 13, 2013

*Arlington School Committee
Regular School Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 2013
6:30 p.m.*

Public Hearing on School Choice

*Arlington High School
School Committee Room – Sixth Floor
869 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476*

Present: Mr. Judson Pierce, Mr. William Hayner, Ms. Cindy Starks, Ms. Leba Heigham, Mr. Paul Schlichtman, and Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe

Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Dr. Laura Chesson, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Rob Spiegel, Human Resource Officer, Ms. Linda Hanson, AEA President, Ms. Rachel Dillon, Student Representative and Ms. Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant.

Late Arrival: Mr. Jeff Thielman arrived at 8:10 p.m.

Absent: Kathleen Lockyer, Director of Special Education

Mr. Pierce opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Pierce gave an update on the June 7th Town Hall event, celebration of graduation at AHS and quoted Tom Brokaw.

School Choice Public Hearing, School Choice Policy JFBB

None

Ms. Heigham moved that Arlington School District not participate in School Choice, as we do not have the space, the need, or the desire as a community to open our schools to choice, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 6-0

APS Presentations Ottoson News Network-OMS Media Center

Ms. Edith Moisand, Library Media Center Assistant said she was asked to work with ACMI Youth Programming on a pilot broadcasting program which is called Ottoson News Network (ONN). Ms. Moisand spoke of the program and the students involved showed off a sample of their creativity by presenting a movie they made.

Public Participation

None

Ottoson Middle School Presentation

Mr. Tim Ruggere, Principal of Ottoson Middle School, Ms. Barbara Weber, Mr. Jack Flood, Mr. John Gonsalves, and Mr. Ben Helfat presented to the School Committee the school improvement plan. Using an Arlington Education Foundation Grant, the middle school administrators and teachers worked to improve the culture and climate of the Ottoson Middle School. Discussed were the accomplishments, goals of the middle school and the data team impact as well as future plans for the data team to recruit new members and continue to focus on improving student achievement at the middle school. All were very grateful to the AEF for all they do and Marie Meteer thanked the staff and asked for the presentation to be given at one of the AEF meetings.

Human Rights Commission Appointment

Mr. Pierce asked the members of the committee to approve the appointment of Ms. Ghanda DiFiglia to the Human Rights Commission.

Mr. Heigham moved to approve Mr. Pierce's recommendation for the School Committee to appoint Ms. Ghanda DiFiglia to the Human Rights Commission for a three year term, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 6-0

Approval of Business Office School Accountant Job Description

Ms. Johnson, Chief Financial Officer provided the committee with the job description of School Accountant. Ms. Johnson asked the committee to approve this position as she is restructuring the Business Office due to the recent turnover taking place. The committee would like to see an Organization Chart as well as the old job descriptions of the Business Office staff in the future.

Mr. Hayner moved to accept the Job Description of School Accountant, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 6-0

District Goals 2013-2014 Second Reading

Mr. Hayner moved to table the District Goals 2013-2014 Second Reading to the next School Committee meeting on June 13th, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 6-0

Mr. Hayner moved to hold a Superintendent/School Committee Retreat on Thursday, June 6, 2013 from 7 to 9 pm to finalized the District Goals, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 6-0

Approval of Updated School Calendar 2013-2014

Dr. Chesson was reviewing the District School Calendar for 2013-2014.

Mr. Schlichtman moved to recess the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 6-0

The committee was reviewing the calendar and after the following motions were made, the committee would like the calendar to be put on the website as a draft and brought back to the full committee for a final approval on June 13th.

Mr. Schlichtman moved to adopt the School Calendar for 2013-2014, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 7-0

Ms. Heigham moved to reconsider previous vote on School Calendar, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Schlichtman moved to adopt the School Calendar for 2013-2014, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 0-7

Update on Thompson Rebuild

Dr. Bodie said the rebuild is going well and July 12th is scheduled to be the substantial completion date. Dr. Bodie will inform the committee when they can revisit the school again.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Pierce moved to approve the School Committee's recommendation to appoint Superintendent Kathleen Bodie as voting member to the EDCO Board, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Pierce moved to approve the School Committee's recommendation to appoint Mr. Bill Hayner to the Advisory Board of EDCO, seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Voted: 7-0

Dr. Bodie congratulated the Athletic Program at the high school to the following teams for making it to the State Tournament: volleyball, tennis, softball, baseball, boys lacrosse.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports

- *Policies & Procedures – Mr. Thielman announced the next meeting date of June 5th at 6:00 p.m. to review policies CBI and CBI-E and the date submission of the goals.*
- *Budget - Ms. Starks attended MASC Day on the Hill with Mr. Hayner and Dr. Ampe and said the Budget Subcommittee met today to discuss long range planning and that from that meeting, Dr. Bodie had updated the district goals with a long term planning goal.*
- *Community Relations - nothing to report*
- *Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment & Accountability – nothing to report*
- *Facilities – nothing to report*
- *Legal Services Review – will be holding a meeting Friday 8 am, May 24th.*

Consent Agenda

All items listed with an asterisk () are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the committee so request, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence:*

**Approval of Warrant # 13161 Dated May 9, 2013, Total Warrant Amount \$401,499.63*

**Minutes for Approval: None*

Ms. Heigham moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 7-0

Secretary's Report

Correspondence for SC 5/23/2013

We received the following correspondence:

- *Labor & Employment Alert for 2013 from Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane LLP*
- *MASC Legislative Bulletin dated May 16, 2013*
- *Invitation to the Ottoson Middle School Annual Memorial Day Program on Friday, May 24 at 1:30*
- *Brackett School Newsletter dated May 20, 2013*

- *Update on the Thompson Rebuild from PMA Consultants*
- *Email from Bill Hayner, Paul Schlichtman, and Cindy Starks on possible changes to the school committee meeting calendar for the next year*
- *Emails from citizens concerned about the security of the Arlington Public Schools, responses from Cindy Starks and Dr. Bodie*
- *Email from an Arlington resident regarding the vote on the pilot to allow Arlington teachers to enroll their students in Arlington Public Schools when space allows*

Mr. Pierce spoke positively about Kerry Dunne's new internship program for Arlington High School students next year.

Executive Session

Mr. Hayner voted to enter Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union and/or nonunion personnel or contract negotiations with union and/or nonunion in which if held in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect and to conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, in which if held in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect. Collective bargaining may also be conducted, and to Vote to Approve: Memorandum of Agreement, Arlington Education Association, Unit A, Arlington Effective Educator Development System and come out and return to open session, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 7-0

The committee returned to regular session at 9:30 p.m.

Mr. Thielman moved the Arlington School Committee approve the MOA between the School Committee and the Arlington Education Association, May 23, 2013 and the Arlington Effective Educator Development System, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 7-0

Adjourn

Ms. Starks moved to adjourn at 9:31 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 7-0

Respectfully submitted by

Karen M. Fitzgerald

Administrative Assistant

Arlington School Committee/cs